

Grypocera and Rhopalocera of Turkey 11.

Description of the females of two little known lycaenid butterflies from southeast Turkey : *Polyommatus (Lysandra) dezinus* (DE FREINA & WITT, 1983) and *Polyommatus buzulmavi* CARBONELL, 1992 (Lepidoptera : Lycaenidae)

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Samenvatting. Beschrijving van de vrouwtjes van twee weinig bekende blauwtjes uit Zuidoost-Turkije : *Polyommatus (Lysandra) dezinus* (DE FREINA & WITT, 1983) en *Polyommatus buzulmavi* CARBONELL, 1992 (Lepidoptera : Lycaenidae)

De auteurs beschrijven het vrouwtje van *Polyommatus (Lysandra) dezinus* (DE FREINA & WITT, 1983) en van *Polyommatus buzulmavi* CARBONELL, 1992. Zij bespreken de variabiliteit en de taxonomie van *Polyommatus buzulmavi* en geven commentaar op de vliegtijd van beide soorten. *Polyommatus buzulmavi* wordt in het subgenus *Meleageria* DE SAGARRA, 1926 geplaatst.

Résumé. Description de la femelle de deux espèces méconnues de lycènes de Turquie orientale : *Polyommatus (Lysandra) dezinus* (DE FREINA & WITT, 1983) et *Polyommatus buzulmavi* CARBONELL, 1992 (Lepidoptera : Lycaenidae)

Les auteurs décrivent la femelle de *Polyommatus (Lysandra) dezinus* (DE FREINA & WITT, 1983) et de *Polyommatus buzulmavi* CARBONELL, 1992. Ils commentent la variabilité et la taxonomie de *Polyommatus buzulmavi*, ainsi que la période de vol des deux espèces. *Polyommatus buzulmavi* est placé dans le sous-genre *Meleageria* DE SAGARRA, 1926.

Key words : *Polyommatus (Lysandra) dezinus* - *Polyommatus buzulmavi* - description of females - southeast Turkey

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Introduction

During our last expedition to the Zap valley and its side valleys in the province of Hakkâri (southeast Turkey), we collected a good series (both sexes) of *Polyommatus (Lysandra) dezinus* (DE FREINA & WITT, 1983). We also caught 12 males and 1 female of *Polyommatus buzulmavi* CARBONELL, 1992. The females of both species being unknown, the following is intended to complete the existing knowledge.

The female of *Polyommatus (Lysandra) dezinus* (DE FREINA & WITT, 1983)

Although DE FREINA & WITT mention a female of *dezinus* in the series of paratypes they state «Dass Weibchen dieser neuen Art ist noch unbekannt.» (DE FREINA & WITT 1983 : 186). They do not write anything else about the female, nor do they include a figure of it on the plates. We therefore suppose that the mention of a female in their type series is a lapsus.

Description : average size as in male *dezinus*. Upperside groundcolour dark brown as usual in all females of the subgenus *Lysandra*. All collected material with blue suffusion on fore- and hindwings. In most specimens this suffusion reaches from the base up to the postdiscal area, in one specimen the hindwing is almost completely suffused with blue. On fore- and hindwings marginal orange lunules present, better developed on hindwing. Underside as in male

but groundcolour more brown and all markings better developed. Marginal lunules more orange than in male (see plates 1 and 2, figs 1-3, 6).

All specimens were captured in the Dez valley (20 km NE Hakkâri, 1500-2000 m) from 3 to 10 July 1992. Most males were attracted to water on a sandy road. Some males and all females were found on flowers in wet localities, together with *Anthocharis damone* BOISDUVAL, 1836 (still fresh), *Zegris eupheme* (ESPER, [1805]) (still fresh), *Pieris krueperi* STAUDINGER, 1860, *Coenonympha saadi* (KOLLAR, 1848), *Hyponphele wagneri* (HERRICH-SCHÄFFER, [1846]), *Melanargia karabagi* KOÇAK, 1976, *Melanargia hylata* (MÉNÉTRIÉS, 1832), *Thaleropsis ionia* (EVERSMANN, 1851) (just emerging), *Melitaea persea* KOLLAR, 1849, *Fabriciana adippe* ([DENIS & SCHIFFER-MÜLLER], 1775), *Brenthis mofidii* WYATT, 1969, *Cigaritis maxima* STAUDINGER, 1901, *Satyrium marcidum* (RILEY, 1921), *Turanana panagaea* (HERRICH-SCHÄFFER, [1851]), *Pseudophilotes bavius* (EVERSMANN, 1832) (still fresh), *Plebejus pylaon* (FISCHER VON WALDHEIM, 1832), *Kretania eurypilus* (FREYER, [1851]), *Neolysandra coelestina* (EVERSMANN, 1843), *Polyommatus buzulmavi* CARBONELL, 1992 and *Polyommatus icarus* (ROTTEMBURG, 1775).

The female of *Polyommatus buzulmavi* CARBONELL, 1992

One female was captured together with a male of *Polyommatus buzulmavi* CARBONELL, 1992. The size of this female, the outer margin of hindwing scaloped between vein 2 and 3 and the absolute identical markings indicate that this specimen does not belong to any of the closely related species : *Polyommatus* (*Polyommatus*) *icarus* (ROTTEMBURG, 1775), *Polyommatus* (*Polyommatus*) *ciloicus* DE FREINA & WITT, 1983 and *Polyommatus* (*Lysandra*) *dezinus*. The latter species is unknown from the locality where the female was caught.

Description : same size as male *buzulmavi*, groundcolour brown. On fore- and hindwings orange marginal lunules present; on hindwing a series of white triangular spots. Underside groundcolour more brown than in male, markings identical as in male but better developed, especially the orange marginal lunules.

All specimens were captured near water patches in the Dez valley (20 km NE Hakkâri, 1500-2000 m) together with the species already mentioned under *dezinus*, from 3 to 10 July 1992, except one male and the female described above; those were captured 13 km SW Hakkâri, 1400 m, on 20 July 1992. All this material has been compared with a large series (both sexes) of *Polyommatus icarus* (ROTTEMBURG, 1775) from both localities and other places in the Zap valley and side valleys (see plates 1 and 2, figs 14-15) and with one male *Polyommatus* (*Polyommatus*) *ciloicus* DE FREINA & WITT, 1983 from 54 km NE Hakkâri, 1800 m, 30 June 1992 (see plates 1 and 2, fig. 13).

Both *Polyommatus (Lysandra) dezinus* and *Polyommatus buzulmavi* were captured about two to three weeks later than in their «normal» flight period as it is mentioned in the original descriptions. The same was the case with a large number of other butterfly species (see list under *dezinus*). Comparison with the flight period of several species caught during earlier expeditions showed that the summer of 1992 started later than in other years. This phenomenon was probably due to a very severe winter which lasted longer than usual (cf. conversation with local people).

Discussion on the variability of *Polyommatus buzulmavi*

One male specimen of *Polyommatus buzulmavi* from the Dez valley shows some of the characters described for *Polyommatus buzulmavi narlica* CARBONELL, 1992, e.g. size somewhat smaller than in the nominate subspecies and the outer margin of hindwing less scaloped. Other characters however coincide completely with the description of the nominate subspecies. In our series from the Dez valley the extension of the basal blue-green suffusion on underside hindwing is very variable : from almost absent to well developed. Therefore this character cannot be used to separate the populations of the Çatak valley from those of the Zap valley and its side valleys.

Therefore, we suppose that the characters given for *Polyommatus buzulmavi narlica* fall within the range of variability of the species and do not clearly separate *narlica* as a different taxon. Because of lack of sufficient material from the type locality of *narlica* (Prov. of Van, Çatak valley, ca. 10 km N Çatak), we do not want to synonymize the taxon. Further exploration must clear up this situation.

Legend of plates 1 and 2 (plate 2 underside of same specimens as on plate 1) :

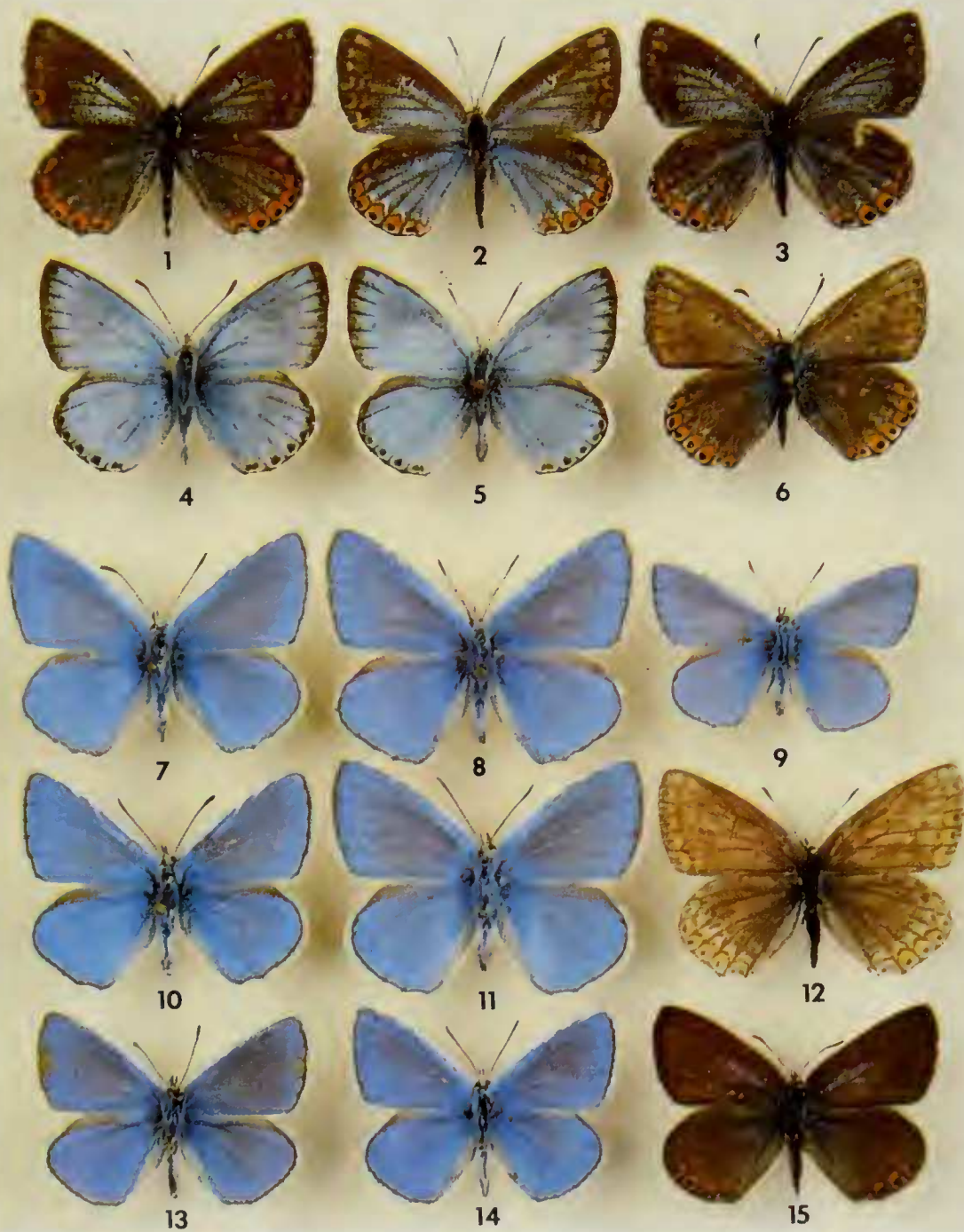
Figs 1-6 : *Polyommatus (Lysandra) dezinus* (DE FREINA & WITT, 1983) (figs 1-3, 6 females, figs 4-5 males), Turkey, prov. Hakkâri, Dez valley, 20 km NE Hakkâri, 1500-2000 m, 3-10.VII.1992, st. 1812, leg. D. VAN DER POORTEN & W. DE PRINS.

Figs 7-12 : *Polyommatus (Meleageria) buzulmavi* CARBONELL, 1992 (figs 7-11 males) Turkey, prov. Hakkâri, Dez valley, 20 km NE Hakkâri, 1500-2000 m, 3-10.VII.1992, st. 1812, leg. D. VAN DER POORTEN & W. DE PRINS; Fig. 12 female, Turkey, prov. Hakkâri, 13 km SW Hakkâri, 1400 m, 20.VII.1992, st. 1847, leg. D. VAN DER POORTEN & W. DE PRINS.

Fig. 13 : *Polyommatus (Polyommatus) ciloicus* DE FREINA & WITT, 1983, male, Turkey, prov. Hakkâri, 54 km NE Hakkâri, 1800 m, 30.VI.1992, st. 1809, leg. D. VAN DER POORTEN & W. DE PRINS.

Figs 14-15 : *Polyommatus (Polyommatus) icarus* (ROTTEMBURG, 1775) fig. 14 male, Turkey, prov. Hakkâri, 13 km SW Hakkâri, 1400 m, 20.VII.1992, st. 1847, leg. D. VAN DER POORTEN & W. DE PRINS; Fig. 15 female, Turkey, prov. Hakkâri, 54 km NE Hakkâri, 1800 m, 30.VI.1992, st. 1809, leg. D. VAN DER POORTEN & W. DE PRINS.

Plate 1



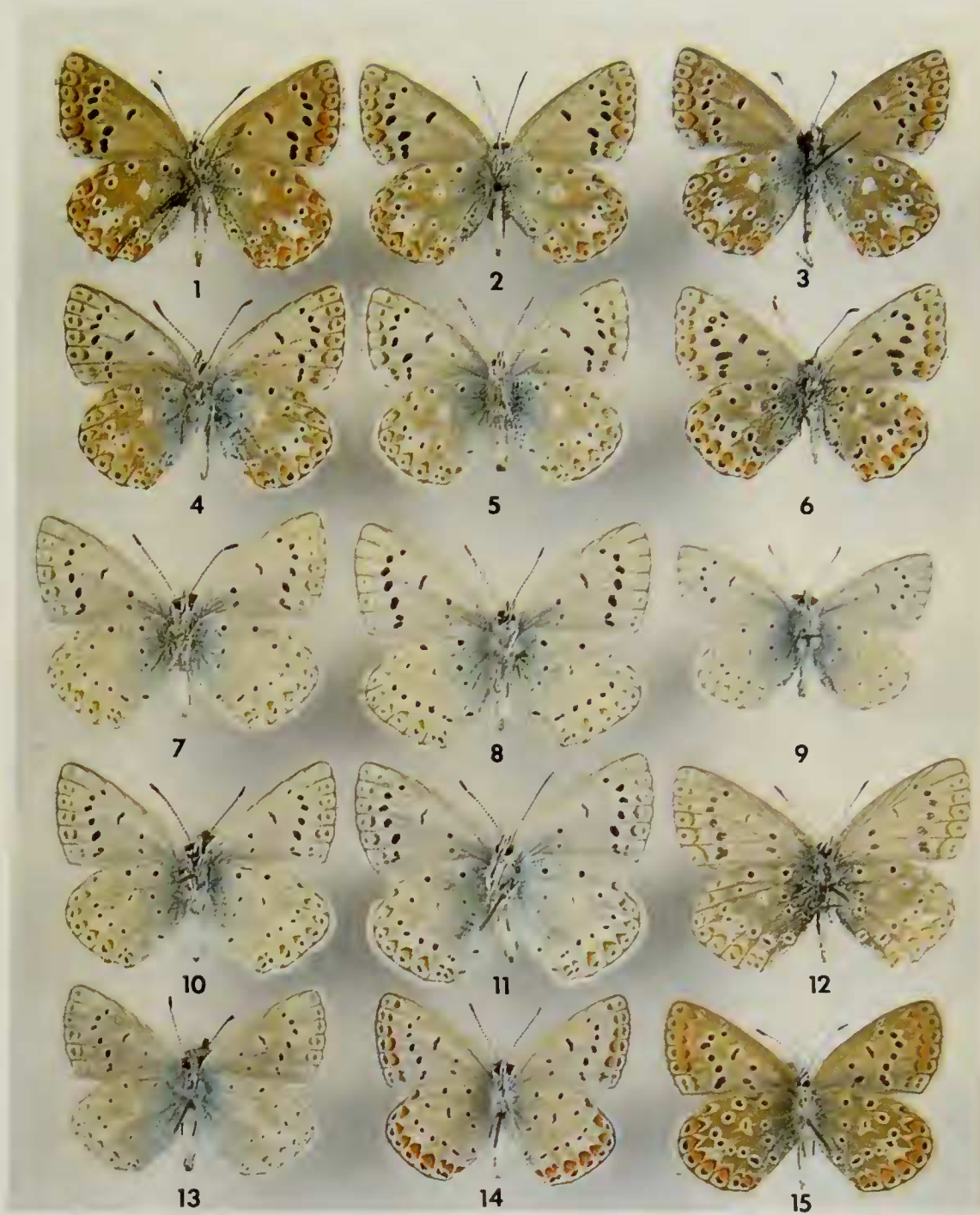
Figs 1-6 : *Polyommatus (Lysandra) dezinus* (DI FREINA & WITI, 1983); Figs 1-3, 6 females, figs 4-5 males.

Figs 7-12 : *Polyommatus (Meleageria) buzulmavi* CARBONELL, 1992; Figs 7-11 males, fig. 12 female.

Fig. 13 : *Polyommatus (Polyommatus) ciloicus* DI FREINA & WITI, 1983, male.

Figs 14-15 : *Polyommatus (Polyommatus) icarus* (ROTTEMBURG, 1775); Fig. 14 male, fig. 15 female.

Plate 2



(Same specimens as in plate 1, underside).

Discussion on the taxonomic position of *Polyommatus buzulmavi*

Some characters of *Polyommatus buzulmavi* indicate that this taxon does not belong to the subgenus *Polyommatus* LATREILLE, 1804, e.g. the very well developed orange lunules and the white antemarginal spots in the female, the size and scaloped outer margin between veins 2 and 3 of the hindwing in both sexes. Especially this latter character suggest that the taxon *buzulmavi* is better placed in the subgenus *Meleageria* DE SAGARRA, 1926 just after *Polyommatus (Meleageria) daphnis* ([DENIS & SCHIFFERMÜLLER], 1775).

References

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